

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to revise the title, insert a cross-reference to the parent application, and to correct the structures referred to in the accompanying text (page 6, lines 12-18). The error in the original structures would have been recognized by a person of ordinary skill in the art, in view of the accompanying text.

The above amendments to the claims are primarily directed to examination of the preferred embodiment of the parent application, wherein the second monomer of the copolymer is a sulfonic acid monomer and/or an alkali metal salt thereof.

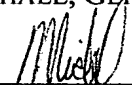
The claims have been further amended to delete the acronym AMPS, where the second monomer is an alkali metal salt of 2-acrylamido-2-methylpropanesulfonic acid (commonly referred to by the acronym SAMPS). Other minor changes were made to provide consistency between independent claim 17 and its dependent claims, *e.g.*, claims 18, 21, 22 and 26-28.

No new matter has been added. It is submitted that all claims are of proper form and scope for allowance. Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

By


Michael Muczynski

Registration No.: 48,642

233 S. Wacker Drive
Suite 6300 Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300
Attorney for Applicants